

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 18-21 are pending in this application.

Claims 1-17 were cancelled in the preliminary amendment accompanying the national stage filing of this application on June 9, 1999.

Claims 22-34 were withdrawn in the Amendment in Response dated January 22, 2001 to the Office Action dated 9/21/2000.

A complete listing of all of the claims is now present in this response. The status identifier was added for cancelled claims 1-17, as well as withdrawn claims 22-34. All other claims are shown with the identifier applied in the amendment filed October 1, 2003 as there are no changes to these claims in this response.

Applicants have attempted to be fully responsive to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment and believe that claims 18 - 21 are in condition for allowance. Action to this end is courteously solicited.

However, should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, the undersigned would very much welcome a telephone call in order to discuss appropriate claim language that will place the application into condition for allowance.

Respectfully Submitted,



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for applicant(s)

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